SHEYENNE RIVER VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION

A major tributary of the Red River of the North, the Sheyenne River flows roughly 591 miles from central North Dakota, eventually meandering its way east to Fargo. Valley City and Lisbon sit along the Sheyenne River, downstream of Baldhill Dam, which forms Lake Ashtabula. During a typical spring each year, the river swells from snow melt with water levels peaking around March and April, often creating flooding conditions. After experiencing major flooding in 2009, 2010, and 2011, the cities of Valley City and Lisbon each decided to pursue permanent flood protection from Sheyenne River flooding.

While each city has identified its own unique solutions to combat flooding problems, the projects have become collectively known as Sheyenne River Valley Flood Protection (SRVFP). Through the State Water Commission's Cost-Share Program, both Valley City and Lisbon are receiving an 80 percent grant to fund their flood protection projects. The cities are receiving an elevated cost-share percentage due to past and potential future impacts caused by water releases from the Devils Lake outlets, which empty into the Sheyenne River.

Quick Facts

- Federal & State Property Acquisitions
- Nearly 1,000 Total Structures Removed From Floodplain
- Additional Impacts From Devils Lake Outlets
- Earthen Levees & Flood Walls

2017-2019 FUNDING & PROGRESS

During the 2017-2019 biennium, funding approved by the State Water Commission for Valley City totaled $2.7 million in grants, while Lisbon was approved for $900,000 in loans.

LISBON

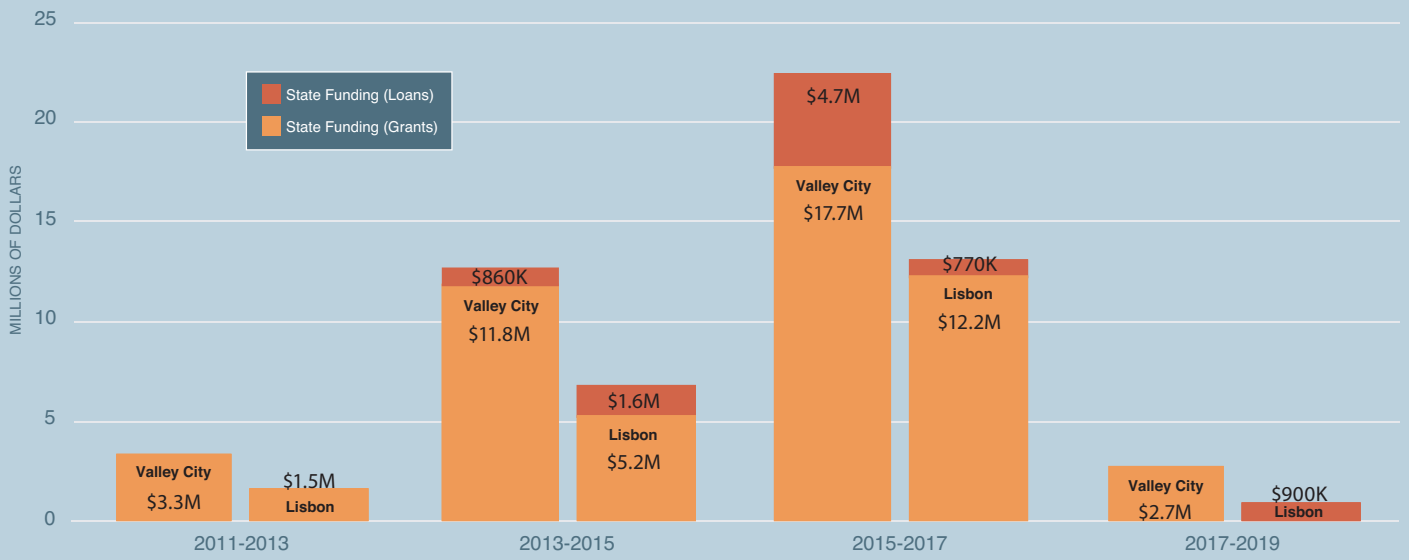
After the 2011 flood, Lisbon city leaders worked toward protecting its residents and infrastructure from the 2.5 miles of Sheyenne River banks stretching through the city. Through a cooperative effort with a local engineering consultant, a series of levees were designed to be strategically placed along the river. As part of Phase I, the first permanent levee was constructed in 2014, and the final levee will be completed before the end of 2018 (See Map Appendix). Once complete, the project will remove over 1,000 parcels of land and 400 structures from the 100-year floodplain. Furthermore, the city is currently considering an additional phase of the project that would provide flood protection in another portion of Lisbon.

VALLEY CITY

Valley City's plan is outlined in approximately eight phases. While Phase I has been completed, Phase II was funded in the 2015-2017 biennium and is currently under construction. Phase III construction dollars were approved in October 2018, and Phase IV is in the design phase (See Map Appendix). The scope of work moving forward includes permanent concrete flood walls, removable flood walls, clay levees, and even bioengineered stream bank restoration projects. Unique to this project is Valley City State University, which helped Valley City secure additional funding from the State Higher Education Department for flood protection around the university's campus, as well as adjacent properties.

SHEYENNE RIVER VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION FUNDING DATA

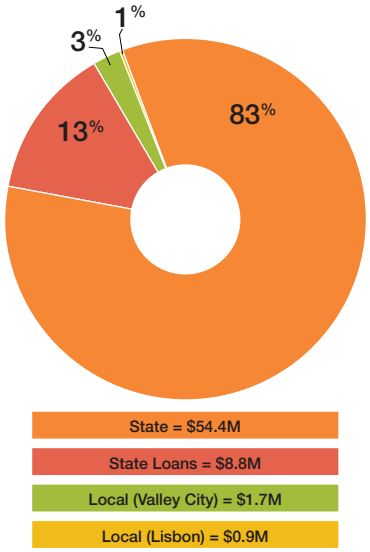
HISTORIC STATE FUNDING FOR SHEYENNE RIVER VALLEY FLOOD PROTECTION

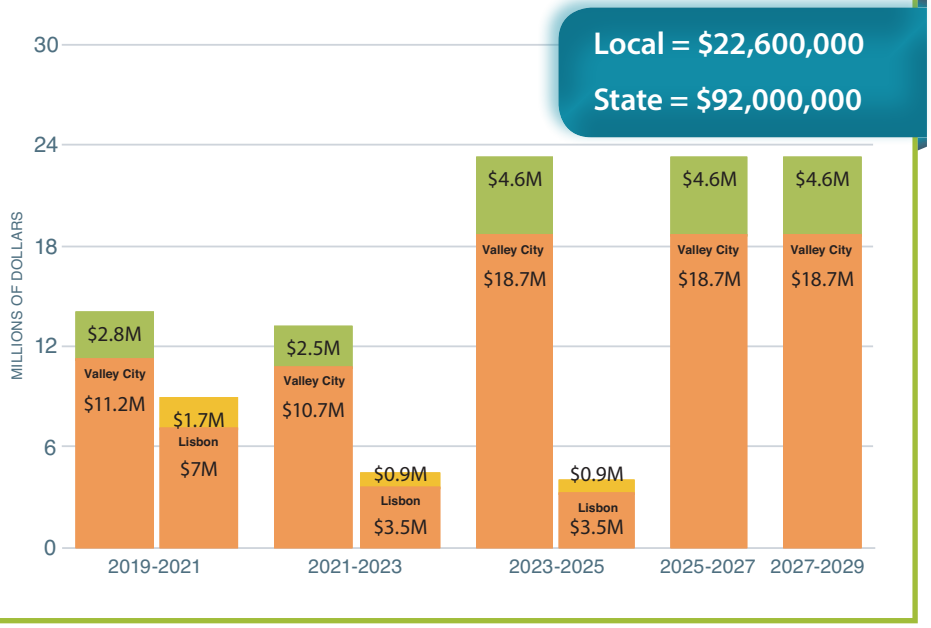


HISTORIC SRVFP FUNDING SOURCES

Total Funding as of October 2018

$65.8 Million



LOOKING AHEAD

SRVFP FORECASTED FUNDING NEEDS